



PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Device for Standing a Dead Bird in an Erect Position as a Decoy

I, CLIFFORD KENNETH WHITEHEAD, a British Subject, of White House, Risley Lane, Breaston, in the County of Derby, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to a device for standing a dead bird, for example a pigeon or rook, in an erect position as a decoy.

When it is hoped to shoot birds in some quantity, for instance because of the damage done to agricultural crops, it is a custom to place a decoy; more often than not this consists of an artificial device shaped and decorated to look like one of the birds in question, but they are not very successful, and it is very difficult to place a dead bird in any position which looks at all natural.

The object of this invention is therefore to provide a simple stand by which a dead bird can be supported in a natural position so that it will serve as a decoy more successfully.

The invention consists in a support shaped to the general contour of the heel and breastbone of the bird and having an upwardly curved extension at the front corresponding to the normal neck-line of the bird with a beak- or head-support at the top, the whole being mounted upon a suitable prop or column.

The beak or head-support preferably ends in a sharp point for positively engaging in the appropriate part of the bird.

The support may have one or more cross-pieces extending from it forming a species of cradle in which the body of the bird rests.

In use the bird can be placed upon and firmly held in and by this device, the feathers and legs serving to conceal it almost completely, so that it will look most realistic.

A constructional form of the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device from below.

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Figure 2 is a diagrammatic illustration of a dead bird supported on position on the device.

A prop or column 10 is provided which may be of a stiff wire or thin rod material, with its bottom end shaped as a spike or blade 11 to enter the ground easily. Its length will be governed by its particular use; for example if it is required for use against pigeons or rooks it will be quite short, if it is inserted in the bed of a stream, pond or the like to support a water fowl of some kind it may be longer; if it is required to be used in a tree or some similar position it may be very short indeed and serve merely as a device for assisting in the positioning and lodgement of the decoy. The upper end of the prop is cranked and flattened at 12 and is removably inserted into a slot or socket 13 on a bracket 14. The part 12 is a stiff fit in the slot. The bracket 14 has fastened to it an arm 15 whose shape corresponds to the underneath part, that is to say the breast and heel, of the bird and it has two curved cross-pieces 16, 17 fastened to it, one near the front and one near the rear. At the front the arm is curved upwardly at 18 and at the top it has a prong 19 with a point 19^a at the end. The device is preferably made of sheet metal of an easily bendable nature so that it can be packed and sold flat and manipulated to shape on the spot. The dead bird 20 is placed in the cradle formed by the arm 15 and cross-pieces 16, 17, the head 21 is impaled on the prong 19, and the plumage and wings are arranged to conceal the device, and also as far as possible the prop, which will in any event be partly hidden by the legs 22 of the bird and usually by grass or other growing crop 23. The whole may be unobtrusively coloured to assist in its concealment.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. A device for standing a dead bird in an erect position as a decoy and comprising a support shaped to the general contour of the keel and breastbone of the bird and having

- an upwardly curved extension at the front corresponding to the neckline of the bird with a beak- or head-support at the top, the whole being mounted on a suitable prop or column.
- 5 2. A device for standing a dead bird in an erect position as a decoy comprising means for holding the body of the bird, means for supporting the head of the bird in its proper relationship to the body, and a prop or the like on which the whole is carried.
- 10 3. A device for standing a dead bird in an erect position comprising bendable members capable of being readily manipulated to embrace the body of the bird and to hold its head erect or in other desired attitude together with a support device capable of being pushed into the ground or otherwise anchored.
- 15 4. A device as claimed in any of the preceding claims having a pointed member capable of engaging with the head portion of the bird.
- 20 5. A device as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which the support for the body of the bird includes one or more crosspieces extending so as to form a species of cradle in which the body of the bird can rest.
- 25 6. A device as claimed in any of the preceding claims having the prop or like support device detachably connected with the remainder.
- 30 7. A support for a dead bird to act as a decoy constructed and arranged substantially as described herein and shown in the accompanying drawing.

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1 SHEET

This drawing is a reproduction of
the Original on a reduced scale

